

John F. Conacher

Editor

SEPTUAGENARY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS



— 1914 —

John F. Goucher

Number.....

SEPTUAGENARY

— OF THE —

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS

— BY —

GILBERT McINTOSH

WITH APPENDIX

— BY —

C. M. MYERS, M.A.



SHANGHAI:
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS

1914

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LOWRIE MEMORIAL CHURCH.

PEKING ROAD PROPERTY.

BOOK ROOM, OFFICES, AND TWO DWELLINGS.



CHAPEL.

GATE HOUSE.

PRINTING WORKS.

PASTOR'S RESIDENCE.

NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD PROPERTY.



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REV. G. F. FITCH, D.D.

(See pages 5 and 24.)



ENTRANCE VIEW OF NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD PROPERTY.



TWO NEW RESIDENCES.

FOREWORD.

THE Mission Press, whose Septuagenary we celebrate, is the property and is under the control of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. To the great body of sympathetic helpers represented by the Board the following survey is respectfully and affectionately submitted.

This record of seventy years' growth in service is sent out, in the first place, so that we may "abundantly utter the memory" of "the great goodness" of Him for whose glory the work has been carried on, and whose blessing has been so manifestly vouchsafed; second, that many of our co-workers in other Missions, who have helpfully witnessed or participated in the growth of the Press, may join with us in praise and thanksgiving; and third, we wish to present the early stages as well as the later problems of publishing effort to the younger workers, so that judgements and decisions, where such are necessary, may be based on knowledge of old established work as well as new and changing conditions.

We gratefully acknowledge the kind liberty granted to use as an Appendix the valuable material gathered by Mr. Myers, regarding other mission presses in China.

GILBERT MCINTOSH.

SHANGHAI, September, 1914.

Important Dates in the History of the Presbyterian Mission Press.

Press started in Canton	...	...	...	1844
Transferred to Ningpo	...	...	...	1845
Transferred to Shanghai	...	...	...	1860
Peking Road Property purchased	...	...	...	1875
Lowrie Memorial Church built	...	...	...	1895
Land bought for New Works	...	...	...	1899
Erection of new Printing Works	...	...	...	1902/3
Building of Works Chapel	...	...	...	1905
Erection of new residences	...	...	...	1912



Mr. KAU VOONG Dz.
A former compradore.



MR. WONG DZIEN NYOEN.
A former foreman.



Mr. Loo CHING DONG.
A former compradore.



Rev. C. W. MATEER, D.D., LL.D.
(See page 5.)



Rev. J. M. W. FARNHAM, D.D.
(see page 5.)



Rev. C. M. MYERS, M.A.
(See page 7.)



MR. R. P. MONTGOMERY.
(See pages 7 and 8.)

FRIENDS WHO HAVE HELPED.



Mr. WANG HANG T'ONG.
Our Chinese Manager.



Mr. CHANG CHING CH'ING.
English Type Room.



Mr. ZEE I ING LIANG.
Foreign Bindery.



Mr. VAN TS'ING YUEN.
Chinese Type Room.



Mr. LUI HYIEN DZUNG.
Machine Room.



Mr. SUNG KWE SUNG.
Type Foundry.

CHINESE MANAGER AND FOREMEN OF DEPARTMENTS.

CHAPTER I.

RETROSPECT.

WHAT wonderful years these past seventy have been ! They record remarkable progress in the home lands represented on the Mission field ; they have seen an old China give way to a new China with new wants, sympathies, and aims ; they have seen the missionary propaganda gain in breadth, strength, and efficiency ; and they have seen the wakening-up China calling for light, and the growing Church in China asking for food.

In these seventy years there has been a wonderful advance in publishing efforts, and as the next thirty years may see greatly accelerated changes which may affect the necessity or the individuality of the Mission Press, we think it well to note the accomplishments of the past, the needs and opportunities of the present, and the hopes for the future. As the writer of this septuagenary has had the privilege of preparing the jubilee and sexagenary records there will be an endeavour made to avoid overlapping and give a more rapid and complete survey than was possible in the first of these records.

In the following rapid summary about thirty names will be mentioned as having been helpfully identified with the progress and usefulness of the

Press; it will be easily understood that this list is necessarily incomplete and possibly lacking in perspective.

1844-1864.

Twenty Years of Beginnings and Development.

On 23rd January, 1844, the first American Presbyterian Mission Press was set up in Macao, in charge of Mr. Richard Cole, with the assistance of one compositor and two pressmen.

A year later the Press was removed to Ningpo, in spite of various objections. One which has come down to us is: "We are apprehensive that the collection of so many Americans, none of whom has any ostensible mode of getting his living, may lead to suspicions on the part of the Chinese authorities, especially as we know that they already regard us with much surprise."

The humble nature of the beginnings of the work is seen in a resolution passed at the annual meeting in September, 1845, which limited the number of workmen in the Printing Office to two pressmen and three compositors. We find a further record in February, 1846, that Mr. Cole was authorized to pay "Asuh, the head pressman, the sum of \$9 a month permanent wages, it being understood that he was willing to remain permanently in the employ of the Mission for that sum." It is interesting to note that a regular pressman now gets nearly

three times that amount and that the wages of the Chinese staff per month are considerably over three thousand dollars, not to speak of bonuses, mention of which will be made later. (We might mention here that these sums are in Mexican dollars which now, roughly speaking, are half United States currency.)

During the next twelve years a quiet but useful work was done in spite of many distractions, the most serious of which was the Taiping Rebellion. The names of Dr. McCartee, and Messrs. Loomis, Coulter, and Way, are mentioned in the scanty records as identified with the supervision of the Press.

In 1857 note is made how by means of the Press a little company of natives was gathered, some of whom were baptized and attended regularly to the instruction given by the superintendent and the pastor.

A special impetus was given to the task of development by the unique and valuable service of Mr. William Gamble, who was sent out in 1858 for the purpose of taking charge of the Press. He was the means of introducing the method of making matrices for Chinese type by the electrotype process. Up to this time various cumbersome plans had been followed, such as engraving on blocks of type-metal or tin; casting the radical and primitive on separate bodies so as to reduce the number of matrices; engraving blocks and from the thick castings made therefrom sawing off the separate types; and finally of making separate punches from which to make individual matrices.

The making of fonts of Chinese types having been simplified, Mr. Gamble invented the Chinese type case now used so largely. In order to ensure an efficient method of arrangement he examined the characters found in the Bible and twenty-seven other books printed at this Press, containing a total of 4,166 octavo pages. These books were found to contain an aggregate of over 1,100,000 characters, but only 5,150 different characters. To this list 850 characters found in the font of the London Missionary Society at Hongkong were added, making 6,000. These 6,000 characters Mr. Gamble divided into fifteen groups according to the frequency of their use ; 13 characters were found to occur over 10,000 times each in the 28 volumes, 224 over 1,000 times, and so on ; 3,715 were found to occur less than 25 times each. A later helper, leaving these 3,715 out of account, arranged the remaining 2,285 according to the radicals in such a manner as to indicate how many times each character was found to occur in the 28 volumes examined by Mr. Gamble.

The foresight of Mr. Gamble was exemplified in his selection of Shanghai as a suitable basis of publishing operations, at a time when few besides himself were able to forecast its future importance. Having obtained the sanction of the Executive Committee, the transfer to Shanghai was made in December, 1860. There was an immediate increase in work, especially English printing, and two years later the Press moved into larger quarters, a cylinder machine being added to the outfit.



CHINESE TYPE-SETTING ROOM.

ENGLISH TYPE-SETTING ROOM,



1864-1894.

Thirty Years of Gradual Development.

Mr. Gamble evidently left for Japan in 1869, and it is fitting here to quote from the sermon preached at his funeral in 1886, in Pennsylvania, where he had a farm: "For a century to come not a Bible, Christian or scientific book in that Empire (China) or Japan but will bear the impress of Mr. Gamble's hand."

During this period, various strenuous workers rendered valuable contribution of consecrated and efficient service in connection with the Press. Rev. J. Wherry (now in Peking) succeeded Mr. Gamble in 1869. On his going North, Rev. J. Butler was placed temporarily in charge. Succeeding him came the two practical and enterprising brothers, C. W. and J. L. Mateer. Largely through their initiative the Peking Road property was purchased and adapted to the needs of the Press. In 1876 Rev. W. S. Holt took charge. His new work for the Board of Sustentation in the United States has our hearty sympathy and awakens fresh interest. In 1884 he was succeeded by Dr. Farnham, and in 1888 Dr. Fitch took charge, he having already had previous experience in press work during the ill-health of Mr. Holt. The present writer came to his assistance in 1891, the Book and Tract Society of China, with which he had been connected for five years, having given up printing operations.

The foregoing names may suggest little to any not acquainted with the history of Presbyterian Missions in China, but those still surviving, who had the privilege of working alongside of these friends or have received help through the Press agencies, will remember with gratitude the gifts of these various workers who each had their contribution to make to the success of the Press and the efficiency of the work as a whole.

1894-1914.

Twenty Years of Expansion.

The most obvious indication of expansion during this period has been in the way of buildings. It was very appropriate that the Lowrie Memorial Church should be built from Press funds and on Press property in Peking Road, as the Lowrie family has always been interested in the growth of the Press. The grandfather, Hon. Walter C. Lowrie, was specially interested in the details of type casting of Chinese characters, and the present Chairman of the China Council has given us much valuable assistance. Until the removal to the new Works, morning prayers with the workmen were conducted in this church, and every Sunday regular preaching and Sunday-school services are held.

Later on a chapel was built at the Works for the convenience of the workmen at morning prayers, and here also regular Sunday services are held, except on Communion Sundays, when the joint congregation meets in Lowrie Memorial Church.

During 1902 and 1903 the new Press Works were erected on North Szechuen Road, on ground purchased a few years earlier from Press earnings. The new buildings afforded about three times as much room as was available in the old quarters, allowing increase in plant and more effective equipment.

Expansion is also evident from the additions to our staff during this period. In the various groups will be noted Mr. James Williamson, our faithful accountant, who joined the staff in 1894 ; Mr. C. W. Douglass, who, joining as a member of the Mission in 1898, brought the helpful addition of considerable experience as a practical printer in the States ; and Mrs. Whitfield, who joined in 1901, to take charge of our Book Room, and has rendered a unique service appreciated by very many over a wide area. In the picture of the office staff at the Printing Works the names of Miss C. Beck and Mr. M. L. Ryan will be noted. The former has been a reliable force in the proof-reading department and the latter deals with the many complex and worrying elements in the book-binding and job printing departments.

Many others have from time to time rendered helpful service. Rev. C. M. Myers joined the staff in 1904 and for ten years participated effectively in the various departments of the work, special burdens being on his shoulders during the absence at home of the two in charge of the Works. In his taking over the Fiscal Agency of the Board, the Press is deprived of his direct services. Mr. R. P. Montgomery came

out in 1907 to assist in the Press, and has given about four years of very efficient service. The educational work of the Station, however, has had greater claims on his time and his special aptitude for reaching young men indicated Lowrie High School as a good sphere for his labors.

Rev. J. C. Garritt, D.D., the late Rev. J. N. B. Smith, D.D., the late Mr. Alexander Mitchell, Rev. W. C. Chapman, Miss H. Barchet, Mrs. Bowman, Mr. J. Trevor Smith, Mr. M. C. Walker, Mr. G. B. Fryer, Mr. T. P. Thompson, and Mr. H. Mussen are among those to whom the Press is grateful for help at various times.

The Chinese staff has also largely grown and we appreciatively bear testimony to their faithfulness and efficiency. A body of twenty English-speaking Chinese young men are employed as shipping and mailing clerks, cashiers, book-keepers, salesmen, etc. The total Chinese force numbers fully two hundred, and particulars of their distribution will be found in the next chapter. We are specially grateful to God for the good gift we have in Mr. Wang Hang T'ong, our faithful Chinese manager. Such other reliable co-workers as Messrs. Yi Soong Ling and Woo Sih Kung will be found in the photographic groups.



*Back row:—Mr. Woo Sih-kung, Mr. McKay, Mr. Gifford, Mr. Woo Ngok-ming, Mr. Kau Z-wo and Mr. Tseu Tuk-faung.
Front row:—Mr. Williamson, Mr. McIntosh, Mrs. Whitfield, Miss Remedios and Mr. Vi Song-ling.*

BOOK AND STATIONERY SALES DEPARTMENT.



CHAPTER II.

THE PRESENT IN THE LIGHT OF THE PAST.

THE preceding chapter indicated uninterrupted growth. Expansion was rendered necessary by the demands of the work and the desire to make the Press an efficient instrument for helping the missionary body in all publishing efforts.

WHAT THE PICTURES TELL.

Some idea of the nature and the extent of this expansion and the manner in which the Press has succeeded in helping the missionary body to enter open doors, may be seen as we study the illustrations strewn through our pages, as we dip into our pay rolls and account books and as we examine the work done. A study of the illustrations will show how expansion has been accompanied by an increase of equipment that contributes towards efficiency.

Only part of the Book Room is shown in the picture on opposite page. There are many other well laden shelves, and in the rear of the Peking Road building there is a double storied godown and several store rooms full of valuable material for supplying the needs of the missionary along his or her various lines of work. It is worthy of note that when our Jubilee book was written this was our Machine Room.

Our new Machine Room at the Works is a spacious and well lighted hall. The gas engine shown in the left hand corner of one of the illustrations is practically idle, having been superseded by a twenty-horse-power electric motor adjoining the gas engine. In the other machine room picture a new machine is seen behind the pillar. A large new machine has just been ordered to cope with new conditions and requirements.

In the foreign bindery towards the rear may be noted a new triple book-trimming machine ; also an extra ruling apparatus. More and more the Chinese are becoming accustomed to the foreign style of book-binding, so that this department is experiencing somewhat of a strain on its present resources.

The picture of the type foundry shows that gas has superseded the use of coal for melting the metal. We are continually being asked to cast fonts of type for the mission presses which are being started in various parts of China. The supplying of the needs of such new presses entails considerable correspondence but we feel that in helping these efforts we are seeking the best interests of the work as a whole. In the former chapter we mentioned that six thousand different characters were first used in printing general literature. In later years we have added about one thousand different kinds, making our fonts to contain fully seven thousand different matrices in each font. Last year we added fully fourteen thousand matrices for two new fonts of a superior face.

These blocks and the photos from which they have been produced were executed in our own photo-engraving department. One of the illustrations shows Mr. Chao, the senior operator, standing alongside our principal camera. It will be noticed that we use a prism in photographing from the original.

Two half-page pictures show the increase in the dwelling house accommodation at the Works.

When the Works were built there was no proper road way and the country was simply open fields. One of the pictures shows car rails, power standard and electric-light post. Trees and sward have turned the open country (which is now a crowded residential part) into a beautiful compound.

A STUDY OF OUR PAY ROLLS.

The character and remuneration of the workmen also witness to great advance.

The following table shows how the force of Chinese workmen was distributed in 1894 and 1914:—

			1894.	1914.
English composing room	...	...	13	32
Chinese do.	...	...	18	32
Machine (press) do.	...	...	22	31
Foundry	...	...	14	24
Foreign binding room	...	...	10	38
Proof-readers	...	...	4	7
Salesmen and book-keepers	...	...	3	17
Despatching clerks	...	...	2	6
Compradore	...	...	1	1
Shroff	...	...	1	2
Office assistant	...	...	1	2
Carpenters	...	...	2	6
Coolies	...	...	4	11
Gate-keeper	...	...	1	2
Photo-engravers	...	...		3
			<hr/>	
Total	...	96		216

These figures do not include the binders of Chinese books.

In the former chapter we mentioned that the wages of the Chinese staff per month are considerably over \$3,000 Mex., not to speak of yearly bonuses. This system of paying bonuses was begun some time ago in the hope of encouraging our workmen to remain with us and not readily be carried away by tempting offers from outside. The amount paid each year in this way is creeping on to six hundred dollars, the amount paid each man being in proportion to the length of time he has been continuously in the Press.

It will be noticed that there has been a large increase in the number of salesmen and book-keepers (the above figures do not include the foreign staff). This increase is accounted for by the development of our Book Room, which has proved very helpful to the publishing bodies in China and to missionaries all over the country. The quantities of books and stationery imported and sold indicate one of the most remarkable developments in any of the departments of the work, the guiding motive being to be of the greatest possible use to workers in the interior. Mrs. Whitfield, who was referred to in the former chapter as in charge of our Book Room, has now the valuable assistance of Mr. McKay, who has had the advantage of home experience in the book trade.

As an indication of the growth in the Despatch Department, we may compare the conditions in 1890 and those prevailing now. In 1890, for an annual payment to the Local Post Office of thirty taels (or forty dollars, Mex.) all the outgoing and incoming



Back row:—Mr. Ryan, Mr. McIntosh, Miss Beck, Mr. Douglass,
Front row:—Mr. Li Dzeng-en, Mr. Chu Yuen Ying, Mr. Wang Hang T'ong, Mr. Loo Shan-foo, Mr. Hsu Shun-tek.



PRINTING ROOM (FROM SOUTH END).

mail to and from all of the treaty ports of China, except Canton, was carried free. In this fee packages weighing up to five pounds could thus be sent. It will be easily understood that such a method of conveying letters and packages and paying for them could not pertain in modern conditions. In time this was superseded by separate charges for separate letters and articles. To accurately gauge the growth of volume and expenditure is impossible, but we may mention that our stamp account for 1913 amounted to \$4,737.11, whilst the stamp account for the first half of this year amounted to \$2,390.33.

THE TESTIMONY OF OUR ACCOUNT BOOKS.

In two other ways the development of the work may be noted. Our books show that the names on our ledgers have more than tripled in the last twenty years, there being fully three thousand different accounts on our ledgers. The capital account has grown to more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (Mex.). It is well to remember that this capital cannot be strictly regarded as the gift of the Church at home. It has largely accumulated through wise property arrangements and natural increase in value, and through good management and intelligent enterprise in times when there was less competition in the printing and type-casting trades than exists now. The amount put down as capital is still insufficient for us to make any great development unassisted. The nature of the work, the size of the country, and other conditions, mean that large sums are always

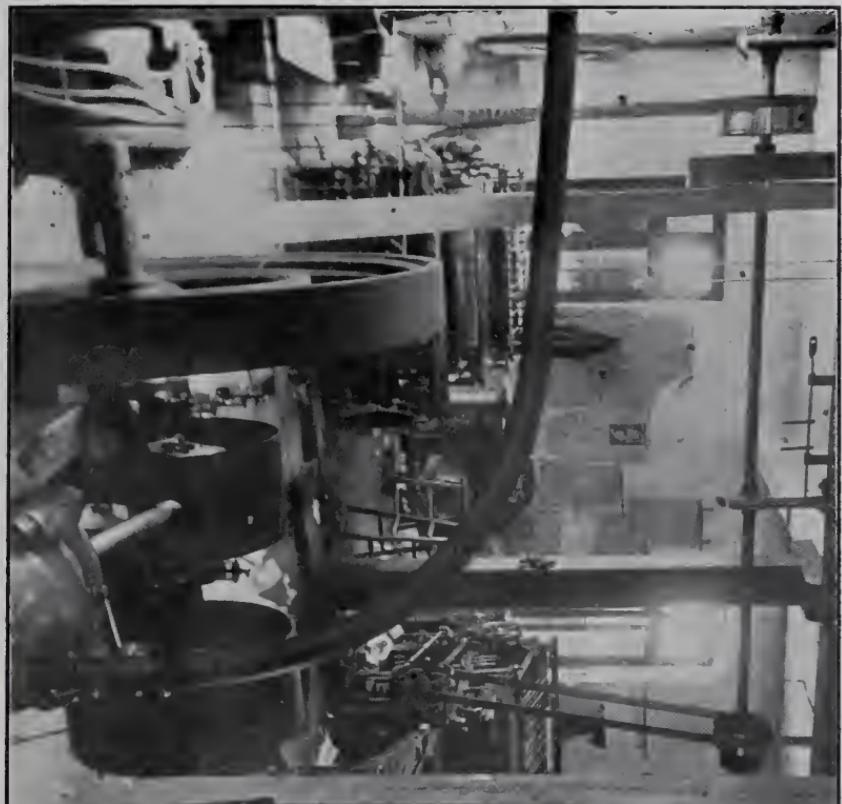
owing the Press, but very rarely has any sum to be written off as a bad debt. Our readers will be glad to learn that at present we are on the right side of the Balance Sheet in spite of the fact that only one member of the foreign staff draws a salary from the Board at home. All the other members of the foreign staff are paid from the Press earnings.

THE WORK DONE.

The output has grown from an annual average of forty million pages twenty years ago, to an average of about a hundred millions of pages. A convenient classification of the output is:—Scriptures, Religious Books and Tracts, Educational Works, Medical Works, Bi-lingual Works and Periodicals.

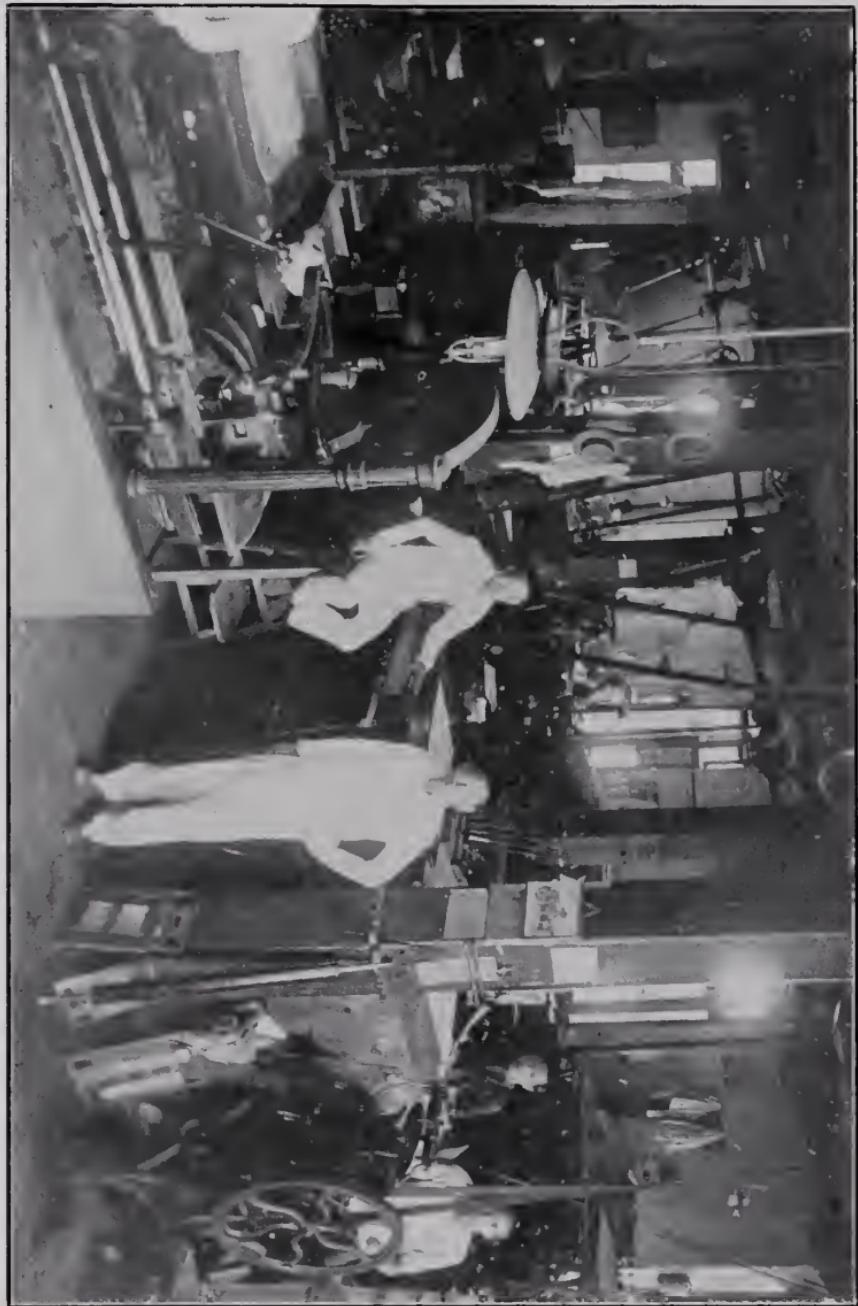
1.—*Scriptures*.—Naturally from the very start of the Press the printing of Scriptures bulked largely in the output. With well qualified men to translate, funds to print, and agencies for distribution, the work of Bible printing was as simple as it was important and satisfying. We have always appreciated the great part the Bible societies have borne in the evangelization of China, and we were cheered and gratified in hearing of a copy of a New Testament printed by the Presbyterian Mission Press fifty years ago. Regarding it, Rev. Wm. P. Chalfant, D. D., writing from Ichowfu on April 5th, 1906, said:—

“ This copy of the New Testament was found in the possession of a man of some education whose name (Chia Kuei Fu) is found on the inner side of the back cover. He found it in a box of books belonging to his grandfather, who had died. The finder was then a school



PRINTING ROOM (FROM NORTH ENTRANCE).

PRINTING ROOM (FROM FRONT ENTRANCE).



boy twelve years old. He is now thirty-three. He has often looked into the book, but says that he cannot say that he got any special impulse toward the Gospel from it. However, it is certain that a favourable impression was created in his mind by his perusal of it, albeit he could not understand the names and allusions. He recently came into contact with our evangelists and was the other day baptized. He lives in south-eastern Shantung, 25 miles northeast of Ichowfu and about 300 miles southwest of Chefoo. The grandfather must have received the volume at least 30 years ago. From whom?"

About twenty years ago the Bible societies were able to take advantage of the wonderful developments in printing and book-binding in Japan, to get their work done in that country. Dr. Hykes, the agent of the American Bible Society, courteously sends us a table showing the large quantities printed in Japan since 1896. The total is :

<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total No. of pages</i>
119,500	387,900	- 19,600	399,849,900

Dr. Hykes adds :—

" You understand that this was not because of any dissatisfaction with the work done in Shanghai, particularly that of the Presbyterian Mission Press, but was because of the saving thus effected to the Society. Prior to my placing the first order in Japan, eighteen years ago, practically all of our Bibles and nearly all of our Testaments were printed by your Press and to our entire satisfaction, so far as the quality of the work was concerned. The margin of saving between the publishing house in Japan and those in Shanghai has been growing less in recent years, but the difference is still such as not to warrant our returning to the local house."

The British and Foreign Bible Society in their last annual report, after referring to the work done for them in Japan, said :—

" From Presses in Shanghai—chiefly the American Presbyterian Mission Press, the Commercial Press, Limited, and the Siao Leen Kee Printing Works—over two and a half million books were received, and we desire to record our appreciation of the able manner in which these establishments fulfilled their contracts."

Dr. Bondfield kindly gives the Scriptures printed in Japan by the British and Foreign Bible Society from 1897 to the end of 1913 as follows :—

Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total Volumes
258,000	1,459,000	760,800	2,477,800

In spite of this diversion of such work from China, it is interesting to note that during the last *two years* our output of Scripture printing was 127,770,696 pages. The output of Scripture printing for the *five years* closing with our Jubilee year, twenty years ago, was 123,098,900 pages.

Our interest in Bible society work and the desire to have the Press a suitable instrument for carrying out the work of the Bible societies have led us to do what we can to carry out in China the successes attained in Japan, but there have been many difficulties. In the Press report for 1905 we wrote :—

" There have been disappointing experiences in our desire to improve the quality of our output. The Chinese heads of departments have been faithful and efficient, but no amount of exertions, oversight, and foresight on their part have been able to satisfactorily cope with the 'more-or-less' way of doing things, which is so frequently

met with in native labor, and renders it anything but cheap. Seeing that export trade reports have had so much to complain of in the way of deficiency of workmanship and carelessness of packing killing certain promising trades, we could hardly expect to be entirely unaffected by the above unfortunate idiosyncrasy. Improved apparatus and increased oversight, have, however, improved matters, especially in the English and bi-lingual department, and we are hopeful of still greater efficiency in the near future. The question of the employment of skilled Japanese workmen to act as an incentive and gauge to the others (a plan adopted by a well-known native firm) has been considered, but several difficulties prevented the experiment being made. We would much rather rise to a higher standard of workmanship through the improved mental concentration and efficient handi-craft of our Chinese workmen."

Since then we have endeavoured to attain higher efficiency through careful oversight of the Chinese workmen, the development of sympathetic and scientific co-operation with them, and the addition of further equipment. Unfortunately many of our brightest men have left us from time to time to take a lead in new printing works starting in other parts of China. It is impossible for us to give them the pay offered them by the new undertakings and we can only hope that their sojourn with us may have produced helpful influences which will be of permanent benefit to them and a source of blessing to others.

2.—*Religious Books and Tracts.*—It is singularly appropriate that in a land where literature has always been awarded a high place, the missionary should use

the enlightening medium of the Press. As Confucianism has depended largely on the Four Books and Five Classics, and early Buddhism perseveringly flooded China with literature brought from India, and Taoism falls back on the Tao Teh King or the more recent Book of Rewards and Punishments, so Christianity by book and tract tells of a living work going on among men, regenerating lives and purifying and uplifting institutions.

Whilst publishing books of its own (such as Commentaries, Concordances, Catechisms, etc.,) the Presbyterian Mission Press has largely worked for and through tract and other publishing societies. The Chinese Tract Society has always been closely identified with it, and work has also been done for the Central China Religious Tract Society, the North China Tract Society, and the Christian Literature Society, as well as for many missions publishing their own books.

“Book and Tract” in no way adequately describes the full range of religious works published by the Mission Press. The mention of music and hymn books indicates one very important line. The “Nevius and Mateer” and the “Blodget and Goodrich” are still favorite compilations. In addition to these there is the C. I. M. Hymn Book, Hymns of Reviving by Miss Dora Yü, Dr. P. F. Price’s Evangelistic Hymn Book, Dr. Davis’ Gospel Hymns, the Kiang-nan Hymn Book, the Woodruff Memorial Hymn Book and several others. The number of tune books is also gradually increasing. It is a

pleasing thought how all this is helping the Church in China to reverently and joyfully engage in worship. Christianity came in with singing and in the darkest moments of the Church's history hymns have been sung, and we believe that the Church of China as it grows in grace and knowledge will grow more and more a singing Church.

3.—*Educational Works.*—From the early days of the School and Text Book Series Committee and through the later years of its successor, the Educational Association of China, the Presbyterian Mission Press has been used as the agency for printing and distributing the educational works which have the endorsement, and are the fruit of the labors, of the missionary educationists. Among the educational works not identified with any society may be mentioned the Mathematical Series by Dr. Mateer and Mr. Wang Hang T'ong's text books.

4.—*Medical Works.*—As first in the field it was only natural that the *Journal* and many of the works of the Medical Missionary Association should have been published by the Presbyterian Mission Press. We have had the privilege of printing for this Association helpful and well illustrated works on Bacteriology, Chemistry, Eye Diseases, Nursing, Obstetrics, Physiology, Skin Diseases, etc. Individual workers, through our Press, have had their own contributions to make. Dr. S. A. Hunter, for instance, in his Manual of Therapeutics and Pharmacopoeia, has done a useful work long after leaving China, whilst the late

Dr. G. A. Stuart revised and brought up to date Dr. F. Porter Smith's work on Chinese Materia Medica.

5.—*Bi-lingual Works.*—From the very beginning the Mission Press has been much used in the printing of dictionaries for the help of students of the Chinese language. The first to be issued was Dr. S. Wells Williams' Dictionary of the Chinese Language, which amounted to 1338 quarto pages. Since then we have printed dictionaries prepared by Revs. Dr. MacGillivray, Dr. Goodrich, F. W. Baller, A. Grainger, W. E. Soothill, Messrs. Davis and Silsby, D. MacIver, Sir Walter Hillier and others. Important educational works in Chinese and English have been printed for Dr. Mateer, Mr. Baller, Mr. Kranz and many others,—Dr. Mateer's Mandarin Lessons amounting to 840 demy quarto pages and Mr. Baller's Mandarin Primer amounting to 478 royal octavo pages.

Perhaps the most interesting development has been along the line of Greek Lessons for Chinese theological students. Rev. J. Leighton Stuart, aided by Professor 陳金鏞, has done much to make it possible for Chinese ministerial students, while in our schools and colleges, to get acquainted with, and even master, the elements of New Testament Greek. It has been felt that until access to the original tongues has been given the Chinese students in our theological schools, they cannot but feel that they have not reached the sources, and that we have not entrusted to them all that Western Christianity has to impart.



Rev. S. I. WOODBRIDGE, D.D., and Mr. CHENG CHUN-SHENG,
Editors of *The Chinese Christian Intelligencer*.



Reduced facsimile of one sheet of *The Chinese Christian Intelligencer*.

6.—*Periodicals.*—At the present time we print ten English and five Chinese periodicals. Among the former we are specially identified with *The Chinese Recorder*, *Woman's Work in the Far East*, and *The China Medical Journal*, these three, in their several capacities, representing the whole missionary body. In their interdenominational attitude they do much for promoting the progress of union and increase of efficiency. Among the other English periodicals are the *St. John's Echo* and the *Boone Review* and several denominational magazines.

Among the Chinese periodicals an important place must be given to the two magazines of the Chinese Tract Society. *The Illustrated News* and *The Child's Paper* have reached a large number of readers and been a great help to Chinese Christians. The influence of these papers goes far beyond the actual circulation. One subscriber writes :—" After reading my copy I always pass it on to the business men of this city and they heartily welcome it. I shall order ten copies next year."

We are specially identified with *The Chinese Christian Intelligencer*. A reduced facsimile of a portion of one of the issues will be found on the opposite page. This paper received its inception at a Presbyterian Conference in 1901, representing the English Presbyterian Mission; the Church of Scotland Mission; the United Free Church of Scotland Mission; the Canadian Presbyterian Mission; the Mid-China, North Kiangsu, the Central China, the West Shantung, the East Shantung, the Peking and the Hunan

Missions of the American Presbyterians, South and North, the Cumberland Presbyterian Mission (now merged into the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.), and the American Reformed Mission.

The paper began publication in June, 1902, under the able editorship of Rev. S. I. Woodbridge, D.D., who has continued editor ever since. Later on, in 1908, Mr. Cheng Chun-sheng was elected Chinese editor. We are glad to present their photographs opposite page 20. In all probability this paper goes to more post offices in China than any other periodical, Chinese or foreign. The manner in which it is read in families and passed round communities would indicate that it affects at least 75,000 people every week for good.

It has about 150 Chinese correspondents in nearly all the provinces of China and several in foreign countries. The *Intelligencer* serves also as an educator. Many of its correspondents have learned to write good Chinese and report correctly. The stories that have been printed serially are widely read. These were afterwards published in book form and now command a wide sale.

The power and influence of the paper, moreover, is well expressed in a Chinese letter written to the editor from an influential Christian business man :

The *Intelligencer* has brought life and activity to the Chinese Church, and we thank the promoters for its establishment. A few years ago the Chinese Christians were unacquainted with each other, and their work was individual and isolated. Your paper has changed all

that. Not only has it linked together the Chinese Church in different parts of China, but it has also inspired the members to greater effort. Some years ago a few members were feebly attempting to bring about revival, and there was little effort made towards self-support. Now the reports of revivals throughout China, published in the paper, have moved the people to greater activity, and there is a spirit of self-support developed among Church members. It has widened the intellectual horizon, explained the difficult parts of the Bible, and, by its articles on the regulation of home life and conduct, has elevated the home. The Story Corner has led women and children to love reading, and elicited interest in the Gospel. The secular department has enlightened those who could not have access to the daily papers.

The *Intelligencer* allays suspicion. Outsiders have reviled us Christians and started all sorts of false rumours about us. But now in places where the paper is read among officials, the *literati*, and merchants, the tone and style of the articles not only remove doubts but incline the people to our religion. People used to think that Christians were worthless and useless; but now wherever the paper goes they think otherwise. The general excellence of the *Intelligencer* causes men to honour Christians. These are only a few points I mention here. The circulation of the paper should be increased and extended and it should be made the organ of the whole Chinese Church.

SUPPLIES.

The question may arise as to how and where supplies are obtained for all the printing described in the foregoing. Naturally much of the material comes from the home lands. About twenty years

ago we began experimenting with different kinds of paper that might take the place of the Chinese product which is so gritty and irregular in size and thickness. In 1898 we imported more than fifteen tons and of three kinds alone we now use about seventy tons a year. We have many other kinds, drawing our supplies from America and Scandinavia, England, Scotland, Austria, Italy, and Germany.

DR. FITCH'S CONTRIBUTION.

In the preceding chapter the name of Mr. Gamble stood out beyond that of others in acknowledgment of a unique work he accomplished in the early stages of the history of the Mission Press. It is only fitting that this opportunity should be taken to pay tribute to the work done by Dr. Fitch, specially with regard to the twenty-five years he has guided the activities of the Press and not forgetting the total of his forty-four years of service in China. In a letter to the Mission dated February 12th, 1914, the Board, in referring to Dr. Fitch's retirement from this branch of the work, wrote : "The Board desires to place on record its appreciation of the long and notable service which Dr. Fitch has rendered, by which he has endeared himself to the whole missionary body in China, and has served not alone the Press and the Missions of the Board, but the whole cause of Christ throughout the Mission."

Dr. Fitch's good judgment and knowledge of the wider and more important issues of the work will be missed by us all ; but it is hoped that in the

"TYPE-CASTING ROOM.





BINDING BOOKS IN FOREIGN STYLE.

important work with which he may be identified we may yet have the benefit of his experience and sympathy.

THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE.

We have called this chapter "The Present in the Light of the Past" and naturally a number of contrasts have presented themselves, the results attained affording cause for thankfulness to God for the blessings which He has vouchsafed on the work which has been carried on in His name, and the changing conditions affording food for thought and suggestions for still further steps in the line of efficiency. In the earlier days we have referred to, doubtless there was more leisure for planning and for carrying out. Nowadays, with the insistent interruptions of the telephone (as well as its conveniences), with the imperative inroad of telegrams and the constant inflow of correspondence, the tackling of which makes necessary the stenographer and typewriter, the conditions are very much changed, and it is difficult to collect the thoughts suitable for such a celebration and still more difficult to adequately express them. But the need for the Mission Press, or at any rate the publications for the printing of which it was primarily started, is as great as ever. The problems are more complex, sin and suffering are still real and clamant, and the Gospel is more than ever needed. We are not ashamed of it; we glory in its power, feeling that in and through it is the only

hope of China, and in the passing years we thankfully recognise all that has been done, with so much evident sense of attendant blessing, in the spreading of the Light and the knowledge of the Light Giver.



CHAPTER III.

THE FUTURE.

IN the second paragraph of our first chapter we suggested the possibility of changes which may affect the necessity for, or the individuality of, the Mission Press, and in the closing paragraph of the second chapter we expressed our conviction of the need for the continuance of the Mission Press in China. The two problems intimately connected with this conviction and which are vitally associated with the future of the Mission Press may be taken in the following order :—

First, That of amalgamation, and the result thereby, to a certain extent, of our losing our individuality, and

Second, Has the time come when it is no longer necessary for the sake of the efficient carrying on of mission work to have a Mission Press or Presses ?

i.—Amalgamation. In the long history of the Presbyterian Mission Press in China there has been a constant desire to efficiently carry out the ideas, and do the work, along printing and publishing lines, of all the societies at work in China, irrespective of denomination or nationality. Consequently, when the home Board of Foreign Missions,—in its appreciation of the possibilities of interdenominational relationships, and of the advisability of joining

forces so that men and money could be used to the best advantage,—suggested consultation as to the possibility of uniting the Methodist and Presbyterian Presses, there was a ready response to the suggestion. Various communications passed between the heads of the two Presses and the Boards concerned, and on 9th January, 1913, advantage was taken of the presence of Drs. Pinson and Brown, of the Southern Methodist Board, to have a joint conference. At a meeting of nine representatives (five representing the Methodist interests and four the Presbyterian interests), there was a lengthy consideration of points of difficulty and agreement, and seven resolutions were adopted and sent to the Boards affected. The replies which have come to hand have been favorable and the movement toward union is going forward.

This conference and frequent discussions since have been occasions of appreciation of mutual good feeling and cause of growing hopefulness in, and desire for, union.

2.—Is a large united Mission Press necessary for the efficient carrying on of mission work?

We have already referred to the large amount of Scripture printing done in Japan for use in China, and mention was made on page 16 of other presses in China. To understand the problem thoroughly, some particulars may be given here of the remarkable growth and wide usefulness of the Commercial Press.

It was started in a humble way seventeen years ago and has grown by leaps and bounds until the

Printing Works cover more than eight acres of land, and, in twenty different departments, 1,400 work people are employed, including about 400 women and girls. The undertaking was registered as a limited company with the Board of Commerce in 1905, and its present paid up capital is \$1,500,000. For some years about one-fourth of the capital was held by Japanese, but all the foreign shares were bought back at the beginning of this year, so the company is now a purely Chinese concern.

In the Editorial Department there are fully one hundred scholars of repute and influence in educational circles, writing text-books, translating foreign books, and editing and compiling for the various publications issued by the Commercial Press. We take the following from an address delivered by Dr. Fong F. Sec on February 28th of this year :—

" Books on all subjects, such as ethics, politics, economics, history, geography, science, mathematics, languages, manual training, dictionaries, etc., have been written here. The total number of volumes published is more than 4,000, with a few hundred more under preparation. We publish for use of

Lower Primary Schools ...	...	...	500	Vols.
Higher Primary Schools ...	...	...	400	"
Middle Schools and Normal Schools ...	...	660	"	
Higher and Technical Schools ...	...	100	"	
Books for Children...	...	...	60	"
Letter Writers ...	...	...	60	"
Books on Politics ...	...	...	1,200	"
Novels ...	...	...	450	"
Foreign Language Books...	...	...	250	"
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	330	"
Maps and Charts ...	...	...	72	kinds

" In our English department we put out English readers and grammars suited to adult beginners, annotated English classics and Anglo-Chinese diction-

aries. We publish a magazine somewhat like "The World's Work" for general readers, an educational journal, a political magazine, a short story magazine, and a children's magazine.

"The Board of Education does not issue text-books, but it outlines the courses of study for the different grades of schools. Our newer books are prepared in conformity with the regulations of the Board. It examines and approves of suitable text-books. Many of our books have been approved, which insures a good sale for them. A few years ago literal and slavish translation was the order of the day, but now we are doing more and more compiling, adapting, and original work.

"Our object is not to produce beautiful and expensive books as is done in America. We keep in mind the fact that most of our pupils in the interior cannot afford to pay much for their text-books, so we aim to make our books cheap and serviceable. A pupil in the Lower Primary Schools by using our Republican Series of text-books needs to pay for one term only seven cents all told for his three books—National Reader, Ethical Reader, and Arithmetic—or twenty-two cents for the whole year. Higher Primary School pupils need to pay only thirteen cents per term or forty cents per year for their Ethical Reader, National Reader, Arithmetic, History, Geography, and Science books. Probably there is no other country in the world where school books can be bought so cheaply."

We are proud of the growth and usefulness of this great undertaking. In a speech of welcome to a party of visitors from America, one of the heads of the Commercial Press a few months ago paid a warm tribute to the help rendered by the Presbyterian Mission Press. Many of their best workmen

and foremen, and the speaker himself, had come from our establishment, and the most cordial of relations has always existed.

Now that the daughter has outgrown the mother, may the latter rest at home? With such native presses and the facilities in Japan, it might seem as if the day had come when it was no longer necessary for the missionary societies to have presses of their own to do their printing. Three considerations, however, require to be borne in mind at this time :—

I. The subject of literature has not yet been treated in an adequate manner by the missionary body. When the plans come to fruition and the subject is being treated in a thorough and efficient manner, a large united Mission Press will be found necessary.

At the National Conference held in Shanghai in March of last year, under the presidency of Dr. J. R. Mott, a statement was made of the urgent needs arising out of the establishment of the Republic in China and the attempt to bring about reform in every department. The following classes of books were indicated as being necessary :—

(1) Commentaries on the Scriptures. Introductions to particular books, Bible dictionaries, and expository works.

(2) High grade works on theology, Christian philosophy, and church history.

(3) New apologetics, especially Christian biographies; books controverting atheistic and materialistic teaching, and books commending Christianity to Mohammedans.

(4) Illustrated tracts, ballads, and small books for general use in the home in the colloquial style.

(5) Devotional literature in simple style.

(6) Christian periodicals for the encouragement of believers, the advancement of learning, and the extension of the Church.

The need has not been overstated. There was a tendency, in the early days of missionary publication, to prepare literature for young Christians, giving less attention to the books required for mature Christians, forgetting the meat which must take the place of milk. Then it has been found necessary to provide books of general culture for the scholar class so that the students of the nation may be able to lay a broad foundation in addition to the necessary religious foundation, and so learn that religion must penetrate and govern the whole of life and is necessary for the complete understanding and interpretation of life's problems and purpose. And as the years go past there will be growing need for a devotional literature to guide the faithful spirit on its way and to enable the believer to grow both in grace and in the knowledge of all spiritual realities which are necessary to his equipment as a soldier and servant and disciple of his Saviour.

The need for the Mission Press and the workers necessary for its equipment will be more apparent as the work develops. New plans are continually being formed for utilizing literature, for enlisting the services of the Press, and to have a strong literary following up of new breaking of ground which is

being systematically organized in some of the interior cities. The question also comes up as to whether a united Mission Press may not solve the problem of how to provide for a Christian daily newspaper in China. The entire number of daily newspapers published all over the world is now nearly six thousand, and some of the native Christians long for a daily paper of their own.

II. In spite of the centralizing already effected in the production of Christian literature and the carrying on of the business side of mission work, there is a miscellaneous yet important work which can only properly be done by a large Mission Press. Printing of all kinds, both English and Chinese, in larger or smaller quantities, is being continually wanted by missionaries of all denominations all over China. Some of it is complicated work, needing the judgment and care of an experienced foreigner to put the work into proper shape, to advise as to the expediency of printing, size of edition, etc. The work may be connected with the educational or medical or business side of missionary effort, or it may be a new and important book and one that will eventually be of value in mission work. But as yet, with regard to the latter, there possibly is no money in it, and commercial printing houses would not care to trouble with it, and without the help which the Mission Press is able to give, such a work might perhaps never see the light.

Our annual report for 1910 mentioned that "a reliable and responsible place is needed to which the

missionary may send for a supply of whatever Christian literature he may need, whether from the Tract Society, the Educational Association, the Christian Literature Society, or even the native book stores, without having to open an account with any or all of these, and feel that his wants will be sympathetically attended to, even if there is no profit but much pains to the provider." That the Mission Press is still meeting this want is evident from the fact that our account books show over three thousand names of persons having open accounts with us (see page 13).

In that same report reference was made to the miscellaneous work done for missionaries of our own and other Missions. "Missionaries of all denominations need a place to which they can go when in Shanghai, or to which they can write when absent, for needed advice and information on various matters connected with their work, their home going, shopping and what not. For this reason the Mission Press becomes a veritable 'Clearing House,' as a Y. M. C. A. secretary once expressed it, for all China, and, indeed, for some of the rest of the world." Dr. Brown gave an admirable summary of the situation in his Report of his visit to China, which we take the liberty of quoting :

"Mission presses cannot compete with them (*i.e.*, the Chinese and Japanese presses) on an even financial basis, and this for three reasons: First, the native press does not have expensive foreign supervision; second, it employs cheaper labor; third, it does not have to do the unprofitable work which every mission press is compelled to do. The latter must produce tracts and periodicals

for use in Christian work, some of which have to be given away or sold below cost, while some of the books that are required cannot now be sold in sufficient quantities to be commercially profitable. The time has not yet come when we can dispense with our Press or limit the scope of its operations. It is an enormous influence for good in China and an indispensable part of our missionary equipment, but each year its position becomes more difficult." (Page 96.)

III. The third consideration is one that may be stated without fear of misunderstanding by our more mature Christian brethren in China. Just as in the home lands it took a long time for Christian principles to be understood and practised, so in China it will be many years before the publishing companies, which such a large book-loving and truth-hungry country requires, will be able to carry on work free from the influence of non-Christian environment and practices. Of the beginning of the eighteenth century Macaulay wrote regarding Britain what men have written more recently about China; and we thankfully note how the English Civil Service was cleansed. A study of the business life of England before the Quakers started in with their high ideals and stern sense of duty will afford illuminating evidence of the progress made in the manner of conducting business in the past century, and the still higher ideals with which the present century began. Similar illustrations and comparisons might be made with regard to the America of the eighteenth and twentieth centuries.

Our Chinese brethren in business lines may, therefore, learn something from the trying but upward experiences of those countries which they look upon as commercial guides; and along publishing lines the Mission Press may for a still longer period act as an object lesson of Christian methods of carrying on business operations. In this connection we would quote two sentences written nearly four years ago by a friend who had heard of some of the problems confronting our Press:

"The more I see of young business men in Shanghai who are making good in a large way outside and who were formerly trained in the Press the more I recognise the magnificent services the Press has done."

"The best results of Christian effort often come indirectly and the influence of the workers in the Press on the young fellows that began there is very marked."

We feel, therefore, that both directly and indirectly there is a place, and there are opportunities, for the Mission Press in China. The need is great when we consider the work yet to be done. The total Christian constituency is less than half a million and what is that to the four hundred millions of China. The need appears greater and more insistent as we note the contrast with the conditions prevailing when our Press was started. During the past seventy years China has been repeatedly awakened from her sleep and startled out of her conservatism. Now there is disaffection with stagnation and thirst after mental expansion.



OUR SENIOR PHOTO-ENGRAVER, MR. CHAO.



PRINTING WORKS, WITH PHOTO-ENGRAVING STUDIO ON TOP.

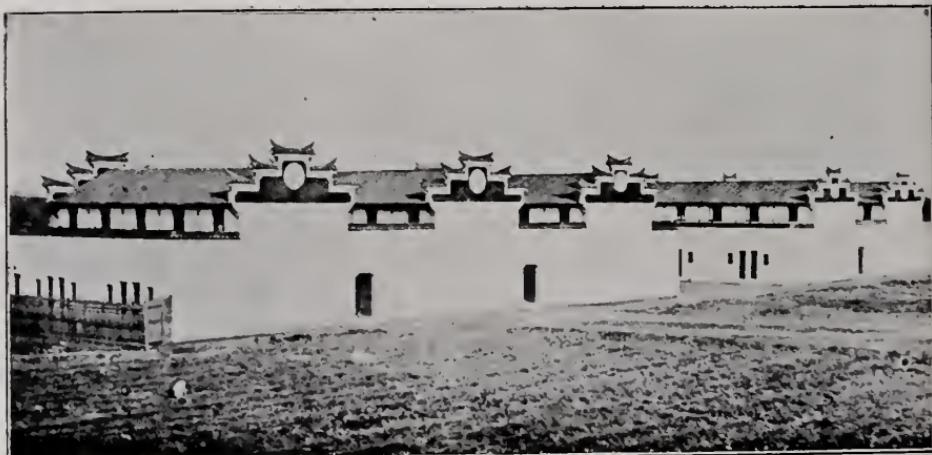


RESIDENCE.

WORKMEN'S HOUSES.

WORKS.

MANSE.



WORKMEN'S HOUSES AT NEW PRESS. (Press property.)

(These photographs were taken before adjacent buildings were erected.)

The inevitable destructive work of the Revolution has been accomplished and the constructive work has just begun. In our sexagenary pictures the queues of our workmen were much in evidence. Our septuagenary shows these have gone, and this may be taken as typical of the wider and deeper change in the life of the nation. There is a revulsion from the old life with its hopeless narrowness, and a longing after a broader and more promising life. But whilst the old code of ethics failed in producing honest officials the new ethical ideas so popular with some are not more successful. The Mission Press is back of a literature that shows how only through Christ's power can clean hands and pure hearts come ; and is animated by the conviction that stronger than the demand for the material things, greater than the need for railways, army, navy, or parliament, is the spiritual call. The supreme need of China is regenerated men and women, and we can get at the men and the women and the children through the Mission Press and its products.



APPENDIX.

MISSION PRESSES IN CHINA.*

By Rev. C. M. MYERS, M.A.

IT is possible to make a general division of mission presses into three main classes, (1) those which assist general missionary publication, not limiting their work to any one branch of production; (2) those which publish literature mainly for the use of their own Mission, with a view to selling it by colporteurs; and (3) those presses which form the industrial department of some educational institution. Some of the presses fall under both the second and third classes, and practically all of the presses are not only printing establishments but book-selling agencies.

In fact, the development of Chinese commercial printing houses in competition with mission presses suggests that it may be advisable in many cases to develop the existing presses on the publishing and book-selling side, leaving more and more the mechanical work of printing to these Chinese institutions. One of the reports sent us deals as follows with the question of competition in Shanghai:—

* This article was prepared for the China Mission Year Book for 1914, at the request of the editor, but could not be used on account of lack of space. The present pamphlet affords the best opportunity for its publication while still fresh. Special reference to the Presbyterian Mission Press is of course omitted. C. M. M.

"Competition is very keen, not only on the part of the Chinese presses, but also among the foreign presses who are competing with the Chinese presses. Competition is very manifest not only in commercial circles, but also in missionary circles. Too often missionaries and societies engaged in missionary work are so eager to save money and get their work done at the lowest possible figure that they patronize Chinese presses which are working seven days in the week and fourteen to sixteen hours a day. This fact makes it harder for mission presses to live and meet expenses, for mission presses must observe the principles of Christian sociology requiring only six days' work and days of only eight hours from their workmen, or pay 50% increase of wages for all time after 5 p.m., and thus they pay dearly for the lessons of Christian sociology which they are teaching so impressively and which are so urgently needed by Chinese civilization."

The report above quoted goes on to show how the larger presses, which at first were subsidized by the Boards, are thrown more and more on their own resources.

The Canadian Methodist Press of Chengtu, at the other end of China, gives us the following in regard to competition :—

"The language teachers in the government schools get us to print English, French, and German lesson sheets for use by their scholars. This latter class of work is altogether in our hands at present, but doubtless in time to come some Chinese offices will be able to turn out similar work. General work will doubtless go in the main to Chinese printing offices, but we shall always get special jobs that call for more than ordinary skill. For instance, while several Chinese offices could turn out a few pages of reading matter in English type, not one in Chengtu could do good display work or careful proof-reading, say, in a book on mathematics. Outside of religious literature we do practically no purely Chinese work; such as does come to us is usually of necessity because there may be a few words of English in the text."

It is interesting to notice how many of the presses connected with educational institutions have closed or are reducing their output and facilities during the past four years. There is no doubt that a printing press is a well-adapted form of work for the industrial department of an

educational institution. By its natural growth it soon acquires facilities for larger work than at first, but before long the question arises as to whether the press shall become a publishing house for the university. This would usually involve a large outlay, and we believe that the time for such university or college presses has not yet come in China. It is only to be expected that presses thus deprived of the natural opportunity for growth should consider the question of closing entirely, which has been done in several cases.

Interesting items concerning the various presses, as furnished to the writer of this article, will be found in the following pages.

THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE IN CHINA.

SHANGHAI—FOOCHOW.

Since 1910 the increase in value of our plant, machinery, etc., has been \$25,000.00 Mexican. The increase in manufacturing stock, merchandise, etc., has been \$30,000.00.

The volume of business done in 1913 shows an increase of 63 per cent. over that of 1910, or an increase of \$30,000.00 over the year 1912. There has been a corresponding increase in the number of employees. Early in 1914 we had on our pay roll over two hundred workmen in the manufacturing department, besides the Chinese binders who are doing their work in their own premises.

Early in 1911 we opened a down town book store in the Chinese Y. M. C. A. building on Szechuen Road. That same year book stores were opened at the summer

resorts of Kuling and Kuliang (near Foochow). Both of these book stores have had very encouraging sales and will be continued again this year.

At the death of Dr. G. A. Stuart, editor, of the Methodist Episcopal Church in China, Dr. A. P. Parker of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, became sole editor of the *Chinese Christian Advocate* which for the past ten years has been the organ of the two branches of Episcopal Methodism. This has been changed from a monthly to a weekly, and considerably improved in form, the subscription price being put at \$1.00 Mexican a year, including postage. In February, 1914, the first number of the *Chinese Christian Advocate* appeared, a monthly journal in English, of which Dr. A. P. Parker is editor, and Mr. William Irving Lacy is managing editor.

The Mission Press at Foochow passed its semi-centennial anniversary in 1912, and it still continues its work as a branch of the Methodist Publishing House in China. Mr. Walter N. Lacy has been superintendent of the Press at Foochow for the last four years. In recent years there has been a considerable decrease in the amount of printing done by the Press at Foochow. Formerly large contracts for the Bible societies were executed there, but since the opening of our Press in Shanghai some of the work has been transferred to Shanghai, but the larger portion of it has been done in Japan. Many of the colporteurs employed by the several Bible societies in Fukien have been withdrawn and very much less literature is being circulated through the province. The North Fukien Religious Tract Society, which was formerly very prosperous and circulated annually many thousands of tracts and booklets, is now on the verge of dissolution. The causes of this decrease

in activity are partly due to the decrease in revenue and partly to the fact that several of the veteran missionaries who gave considerable time to the publication and printing of Christian literature have passed away.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES PUBLISHING HOUSE. SHANGHAI.

During the year 1913 our presses produced as follows:—

Denominational Books on Bible

Topics ...	... ... ...	6,500 copies	1,391,500 pages.
8 to 16 page Tracts and Folders..	182,000	„	2,315,000 „
Pamphlets (from 36 to 95 pages)	20,785	„	1,182,600 „
"Signs" magazines (average 22 pages) ...	... ... ...	595,000	13,090,000 „
		Totals... 804,285	17,979,100 pages.

In addition we printed and sold 110,000 calendars, $25 \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ inches, in two colors. The report of sales very nearly corresponds with the amount of matter printed.

This report includes only the product of the Publishing House here in Shanghai. Quite an amount of denominational and secular literature from other sources was handled through the Book Department.

From knowledge and experience gathered during the past three years of residence in China, I am convinced that the increases of the next few years will be an astonishment to us. In our work we do absolutely no commercial work, and the transition from a paid colporteur system to one that is self-sustaining has been accomplished in most of the territory now being worked. With the introduction of experienced foreign trainers for book work, a great and immediate improvement will no doubt result. No field in the world holds out as good prospects for Christian literature as this one does.

THE TRINITY COLLEGE PRESS. NINGPO.

The Trinity College Press is in no sense a business concern, for it does not invite general printing work. It is a small private venture, receiving an annual grant of £12 from the C. M. S. In a small way it is an industrial school, as we employ boys as apprentices. Work is done in character and Roman colloquial.

Besides general mission printing in 1913 the following books were published by this press.

In Chinese Character.—Expository Commentaries on Exodus, Romans, Ephesians. The Tabernacle and Priesthood Explained. Exposition of the 39 Articles. The Second Coming of the Lord.

In Ningpo Roman Colloquial.—The Pilgrim's Progress: Church Calendar and Table of Lessons for 1914.

About £50 (\$500 Mex.) worth of books were sold by the Press in 1913.

HINGHWA MISSION PRESS.

The last year has been a hard one for our press. For eight months of the year I have been in enforced absence on account of the political disturbance in our section of the country. The Press, however, was kept running by the native members of the force.

We have printed, of all classes of matter, 2,195,401 pages, being only 425,199 less than last year, when we printed the entire Bible. We have run two newspapers during the year, one a Romanized Colloquial, and the other in classical character.

There is no competition for the higher grade of work though we find it difficult to compete with the cheap

grade of work done by the natives. There are no presses here that use type. For newspaper work and good job printing the field ought to be good in the future, as the Chinese get educated up to the need and value of it.

With more settled conditions we anticipate better business during the coming year.

ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS. SWATOW.

All our work is for our own mission purposes and we do no outside work. We are at present printing parts of the Old Testament and reprinting the whole of the New Testament in Romanized Vernacular. We have no fonts for character work, but occasionally print editions of our Church Hymnbook from a set of character stereos made for us in Foochow. The Press at present is employing five Chinese printers.

HAINAN MISSION PRESS. KACHEK, HAINAN.

The Press, I may say, has been neglected by the Mission and has done only the printing of some little jobs and of 800 copies of the Hainan Hymnbook, which were printed for the American Tract Society. The statistics are as follows :—

Pages printed during the year	...	...	...	45,700
Number of books printed	...	...	...	800

I hope, however, that during the next year I may make it more useful in our work.

CHINA BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY. CANTON.

Denominational Literature.—Besides producing all the Baptist literature which our own constituency demands, we stand ready to print literature for the use

of other evangelical missions in South China on their request and responsibility. In this way we are affording facilities which the other denominational presses have extended to Baptists elsewhere in China.

Up-to-date Tracts.—In this department we propose to work hand in hand with the South China Religious Tract Society. We should also co-operate with publishing houses and tract societies in other parts of China by arranging for an exchange of privilege in reprinting books and tracts originally published by them. Such an agreement has already been made with the Central China Religious Tract Society, and doubtless in due course this will be the general and mutual understanding of all Christian mission presses and tract societies in China.

Periodicals. The Society now publishes two periodicals in Chinese : (1) True Light, comprising a weekly bulletin (8 pages) of current church news and a monthly issue of sixty pages ; (2) The Sunday School Student, a weekly.

In English, the bi-monthly, The New East, serves as a medium for the dissemination of Mission news and for the exchange of ideas among our missionaries. One interesting incident may be mentioned. The editor of True Light prepared and published a lengthy article upon the question of making Confucianism the established religion of China. A large body of gentry in an adjoining province, who had been warmly advocating making Confucianism the established religion, when they read the article in question turned completely around and as warmly opposed such a course. An official in another section, to whom a copy of the paper was sent by a local missionary, became so interested that he sent a

number of articles to us for publication. Another high official in Yunnan on reading a copy that was sent to him became so interested that he subscribed for ten copies to present to his friends.

The grand total number of pages of periodicals, Scriptures, books and tracts published during the year was 28,068,735.

Our New Publishing House, completed in 1912, with the exception of the permanent ground floor, which should now be laid, is a reinforced concrete structure supported on piers, which are in turn supported upon piles that are driven to a safe depth. The increased facilities afforded by the new building and machinery have very materially decreased the cost of production. We have room to expand our operations within this building and also to erect other buildings adjacent.

The most important single business transaction of the year was the sale of our property in the foreign concession. We are thus able to pay off most of our indebtedness and invest some money in the Missions Building.

At their April meeting the directors decided to co-operate with the South China Religious Tract Society and became jointly responsible for (1) one central, well equipped Christian bookstore; (2) general colportage for this area, to supplement the work of all Missions, to insure the systematic working of all towns and villages in this area: (3) the publication of a series of tracts to be issued monthly, prepared on special subjects and for special classes.

THE KNIPP MEMORIAL PRINTING PLANT, of the
Canton Christian College.

We here in the Canton Christian College are just starting a printing plant. It will be called the Knipp Memorial Printing Plant. We expect to put approximately \$2,000 gold into it. The main purpose for erecting the printing plant here is as a means of self-help for students, and for one department in the manual training which all students are required at some time during their course to take. But the scope will be larger than this, for we expect to do all our own printing, and, when we are ready, to print and publish our own books. This we shall be able to do both in Chinese and English. The plant will be up-to-date in every way with both Chinese and English departments. We shall be ready for business by July 1, 1914.

THE EVANGEL PRESS. SHENCHOW, HUNAN.

The Evangel Press is a new institution established by the Evangelical Association at Shenchow, Hunan. Our office is equipped with one small job press for card, envelope, letterhead, small tract work, etc., and one cylinder press, taking a form 17×22 in., for larger tract, poster, magazine and book printing.

We are just beginning and are therefore working under varied handicaps. Since the above announcement was issued, as well as one in Chinese which is being circulated throughout our field, the requests for work have been gratifying and indicate that there are varied demands both from missions and from Chinese such as might warrant the establishment of a very fully equipped

plant. Mission printing and outside job work are being done, the two classes about balancing each other at present.

Competition has yet to come in this section of China. Except for the wooden type presses and wooden blocks we have heard of no press within a 140 miles radius. To the south and west we have heard of no presses except such as there may be in Kweiyang, Kweichow, 300 miles distant. It was the apparent need of this section which induced us to undertake this work and we hope it will be permanent. We are planning to stock the publications of several Bible and tract societies as well as educational works.

Having found it difficult to get Sunday-school literature, etc., from Shanghai "in time," we have begun issuing leaflets of our own. A weekly religious periodical, "The Fu Yin Pao," has also been printed, and tracts of some kind weekly.

THE PRESS OF THE NATIONAL BIBLE SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND, HANKOW.

This Press was established in July, 1885, by Mr. John Archibald, Senior, the Society's agent in Central China. It was first situated in the native town adjoining the foreign settlement, but on January 9th, 1892, was largely destroyed by fire. The result of the fire was the transference of the plant saved to the foreign settlement, where a site was acquired and the present buildings erected. These buildings also were visited by fire in the summer of 1907. This fire allowed of the redistribution of the plant, giving better facilities for the execution of business.

The Press is well equipped in every department, which includes composing, typecasting, printing, and bookbinding, and employs about two hundred workmen. For the past ten years the Press has been under the superintendence of Mr. T. F. Buchanan. It is solely engaged in printing the Scriptures for the National Bible Society of Scotland. The output of the Press has shown decided annual increases. At the end of its first year the issues amounted to only 262,200 books, while the issues of last year (1913) reached 1,645,000. Since its inception a grand total of about 18,000,000 Testaments and Scripture Portions have been issued.

CENTRAL CHINA RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY
ARTHINGTON PRESS. HANKOW.

The C. C. R. T. S. Arthington Press in Hankow came into existence through a gift of £2,500 from the Arthington Trustees. We have two Wharfedale machines which take a sheet 25" \times 40." We have two platen machines run like the Wharfedales by electricity, and one small hand machine. We have, men and boys, some fifteen hands, the binding department not included. We have been printing Gospels and Old Testament Portions for the National Bible Society of Scotland. We have been unfortunate so far in that we have not secured a suitable man as manager for the press. We get a considerable number of requests for outside work, some of it needing more technical skill than our present staff possesses. We are making enquiry at home for a man who must be a trained and capable printer and a missionary in spirit. When we have secured the right man we have no doubt that our press will be a powerful factor in helping on the coming of the Kingdom. Al-

ready we have found that the Press saves the Society a considerable sum in its printing bills.

BROADCAST TRACT PRESS. CHANGSHA.

The issues of this Press are confined almost exclusively to a uniform series of selected Gospel tracts of 9" x 10" in size for broadcast circulation throughout the Mandarin speaking provinces of China. A motto adopted early in the work illustrates their purpose,— "By the million, for the million;" and by God's good hand on the work this has proven literally true. Several of the tracts were written especially for our use, but many are selected from the best and most spiritual writers in the empire. A number are entirely Scripture, and lately a series of 12 Wall Texts, Scripture verses, have been added for the use of Chinese Christians.

Two fine 8 by 12 Gordon treadle presses and a German paper cutter comprise the plant, and the press-work is done largely by our Orphanage boys, while the girls do much of the counting, folding, and packing.

To compare five years' sales: 390,000 were issued in 1909, and 460,000 the next year, with 522,000 for 1911, and in 1912 we had the largest circulation yet, 790,000; and even sent out 661,000 in 1913, while the writer was at home in the States.

Miao Booklets Issued. By request of friends among the Miao and other tribes in the West, we have gladly carved plates for several small books, from 16 to 40 pages, and issued these here, sending on through the Post Office. These have amounted to 15,000 or 20,000 for the several books,—all of which are in the "Pollard Script."

The presses here were supplied by kind gifts of interested friends in America, and all the tracts are printed from plates made in Shanghai, thus escaping the expense and trouble of great fonts of Chinese type, of which we have none at all. A small series of English type is kept for personal use, and to advertise the tracts, etc. Small English tracts 3"×5" represent a new line of activity of this Press.

ENGLISH BAPTIST MISSION PRESS. SIANFU.

We have only a hand press here, but much good results from it. The Press is chiefly used for ourselves,—tracts, booklets, notices,—and I fear cannot come into line with the big Mission Presses. A fine Chinese press is working daily in the city and does a great deal of work for all sorts of customers, but at a good price.

CANADIAN METHODIST MISSION PRESS. CHENGTU.

Our Chinese work has been mainly restricted to publishing West China Religious Tract Society literature, and supplying the American Bible Society with Gospels, and other Bible Portions. We print books in Tibetan, Hwa Miao, Chinese, and English. We do a considerable amount of general, Chinese, and English work for the different missionary societies operating in West China, and a small amount of commercial work for other foreigners and Chinese. With the aid of electric light we have been doing night work for the last eleven months, and shall have to continue so doing till we have caught up with a number of back orders. As one of our oldest presses is worn out and others are showing signs of hard wear, it is obvious that the three small presses

recently bought will not materially increase our output. To do this larger and heavier presses run by power are necessary.

During the past year we have printed thousands of pages of language lessons in French, German, and English. At the present moment we are issuing a thousand copies of a book on higher mathematics for the Government. In this direction alone—that of school text-books—there is a new field hitherto untouched by the Press. Viewing all our needs—a couple of large presses, a power plant, more English type, an envelope-making machine, a punching and round cornering machine, a new paper cutter, etc.,—we could easily spend twenty to thirty thousand dollars, gold, to good advantage for new equipment.

A few concrete figures may be of interest. The value of Press stock and plant is now almost \$36,000 Mex., being an increase of five or six thousand dollars over last year. This represents in part three new presses, additional Chinese type, and increased stock of foreign paper now carried. These have all been added without calling on the Mission for a cent. We have a press room plant of two small Gordon, six large Gordon, and two cylinder presses. Employees now number about sixty. Now we want a power plant and a large press, and hope to finance the former out of money in hand. By dint of night work and hard pushing, we have turned out twenty-seven million pages of Chinese literature during the eight months April 1st to December 1st, or at the rate of forty million pages per year, which is a number largely in excess of any previous year. 650,000 pages of English printing were also issued,

another record. Our purchases of foreign paper have increased by leaps and bounds. In 1911—the highest before the Revolution—we bought a total of 230 reams of foreign paper, as against 1,000 reams this year.

About the first of June last, Mr. Westaway having returned from furlough, a re-arrangement of the work was possible, the Chinese work being allotted to Mr. Westaway, the foreign to Mr. Plewman, and the accountancy (as formerly) to Mr. Crutcher. It is probable that this division will be continued during the coming year, it having proved eminently successful. A word as to the prospects for the future. While we confidently expect still larger outputs in the next year or two, there is a strong likelihood that the revenue will not be commensurate with the output, owing to competition being keener.

SOUTH CHIHLI MISSION PRESS. TAIMINGFU.

Our foreign printer has not been with us for some years, so the Chinese have been carrying on the work, with foreign oversight of course, but with one who has no knowledge of printing. We needed also to dismiss our head Chinese printer who had been with us some ten years, so now the press is in the hands of the Christian students of our boys' school.

Our class of printing is wholly governed by the needs which arise in our own work. With no competent foreign oversight, we need limit ourselves to what we can do, which now is the issuing of our Mission paper, "The Barley Cake," alternate months with a prayer leaflet; publishing of a song book which we use, as well as have calls for from neighboring missions; a few translations in Chinese; and the blanks and forms used

in our headquarters. We meet with no competition, and there are no Chinese presses in our vicinity. We have every prospect of permanency of our colportage presses, and hope to greatly enlarge our output. We do no outside printing, all confined to our own needs, and, as we are able, to supply to our neighboring Missions.

We praise God for our colportage presses, and certainly would be much hampered in work without them. Our hope is to be able to flood our section with Christian literature, tracts, leaflets, etc.

WEIHAIWEI MISSION PRESS.

There has been but a slight increase in the demand for our tracts, booklets, etc., during the past year, over previous year. The Gospel Sheet Calendar was again in good demand. There are large illustrated calendars published by the Bible societies which find a ready sale, but the one sent from our Press is simply a Tract Calendar published at a price which allows of free distribution. For 1913, 220,000 were printed and despatched to all parts of China. The unsettled state of parts of this land prevented some would-be purchasers from ordering, the risk of non-delivery being too great.

A 24-paged Roll Text Almanac, giving a text for each day, seems to be answering the purpose for which it is published, *viz.*, the stimulating of Chinese Christians to read the word of God. It is also used in some Christian schools where the scholars learn the daily texts.

In order to increase the demand for our publications we purpose reducing the prices of our tracts and booklets 25 per cent. We trust this may help many to take advantage of present readiness of the Chinese to receive Gospel literature.

